Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended)

Claim 2 (Currently Amended)

Claim 3 (Currently Amended)

Claim 4 (Currently Amended)

Claim 5 (Currently Amended)

Claim 6 (Currently Amended)

Claim 7 (Currently Amended)

Claim 8 (Original)

Claim 9 (Curently Amended)

Claim 10 (Currently Amended)

Claim 11 (Currently Amended)

Claim 12 (Currently Amended)

Claim 13 (Currently Amended)

Claim 14 (Currently Amended)

Claim 15 (Currently Amended)

Claim 16 (Currently Amended)

CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended)

A self-enhancing search system for providing expanded keyword searches comprising:

a semantic taxonomy containing semantic nodes in a hierarchical structure;

a search system text analyzer that periodically looks through documents and identifies semantic node terms in the semantic taxonomy applicable to terms used in the documents;

a semantic binder attaching the documents to a semantic node term applicable to terms used in the documents; and

a relevant document finder which automatically enhances a users keyword query entry with a semantic node term applicable to the users keyword query to create an enhanced query and based on the enhanced query including both the users keyword query and the semantic node term that not only locates documents that contain a match for the users keyword query but also locates documents which do not contain a match for the users keyword query but contain other keyword search terms that belong to the semantic node applicable to a users keyword search.

2. (Currently Amended)

The search system of claim 1, wherein the enhanced search query automatically includes both "the users keyword search query" OR "the semantic node" to automatically without user intervention locate documents that contain a match for either the users keyword search query ~~term~~ or another keyword query containing at least one different keyword related to the semantic node.

3. (Currently Amended)

The search system of claim 2 including a semantic dictionary which defines user keyword query terms in user queries in accordance with the semantic nodes in the [[a]] semantic dictionary.

4. (Currently Amended)

The search system of claim 3 including a semantic dictionary builder which systematically examines the system log off line for new keyword queries to increase the keyword terms in the semantic dictionary and associate them with one or more semantic nodes.

5. (Currently Amended)

The search system of claim 4 including ranking the results of searches using the enhanced queries to place terms in the semantic dictionary in order of most often used keyword query terms to reduce table lookup time.

6. (Currently Amended)

The search system of claim 5, wherein the semantic ~~binder~~ dictionary builder includes:

a sub-module that identifies domain specific terms in a given keyword query, using domain specific glossary;

a sub-module that finds synonyms and related terms for the identified keyword query terms, using domain specific thesaurus;

a sub-module that finds other statistically close terms to the identified keyword query terms; and

a sub-module that identifies relevant domain specific categories for the identified keyword terms, using domain specific ontology.

7. (Currently Amended)

The search system of claim 6, wherein the dictionary builder includes:

a sub-module that binds keyword queries in the identified semantic taxonomy categories, using the results of the text analyzer.

8. (Original)

The search system of claim 7, wherein the semantic binder includes:

a sub-module that adds new doc-query links to the meta-data of the corresponding textual index entries to link the documents to the semantic taxonomy categories.

9. (Currently Amended)

Self-enhancing search program on a computer usable medium comprising:

semantic taxonomy code containing semantic nodes in a hierarchical structure;

search system text analyzer code that periodically looks through ~~a document~~ documents and identifies [[a]] semantic node ~~term~~ terms in the semantic taxonomy applicable to keyword terms used in the document;

semantic binder code attaching the ~~document~~ documents to ~~the~~ a semantic node term applicable to keyword terms used in the document;

[[a]] query enhancer code which automatically adds a semantic node ~~terms~~ term to a user ~~queries~~ keyword query containing a keyword search term applicable to the semantic node term; and

relevant document finder code which based on enhanced queries including the semantic node term ~~to locate~~ locates documents which do not contain the keyword search term query but ~~contains~~ contain at least one other keyword term that is related to the keyword search term by the semantic node term applicable to a user's search.

10. (Currently Amended)

The search program of claim 9, wherein the enhanced search query automatically includes a search containing "the users keyword search query" OR "the semantic node" to automatically locate documents without user intervention containing either the keyword search query term or the keyword term semantically related to the users term.

11. (Currently Amended)

The search program of claim 10 including code for a semantic dictionary which defines user keyword query terms in user keyword queries in accordance with the semantic nodes in the semantic dictionary.

12. (Currently Amended)

The search system program of claim 11 including code for a semantic dictionary builder which off line regularly examines new user keyword queries in the system log to increase the keyword terms in the semantic dictionary and associates them with one or more semantic nodes.

13. (Currently Amended)

The search system program of claim 12 including code for ranking the results of searches using the enhanced queries to place keyword query terms in order of most used keyword terms to reduce table lookup time.

14. (Currently Amended)

The search system program of claim 13, wherein the semantic binder includes:

code for a sub-module that identifies domain specific keyword terms in a given query, using domain specific glossary;

code for a sub-module that finds synonyms and related terms for the identified keyword terms, using domain specific thesaurus;

code for a sub-module that finds other statistically close keyword terms; and

code for a sub-module that identifies relevant domain specific categories for the identified keyword terms, using domain specific ontology.

15. (Currently Amended)

The search system program of claim 14, wherein the dictionary builder includes code for a sub-module that binds keyword queries in the identified semantic taxonomy categories, using the original results of the semantic binder.

16. (Currently Amended)

The search system program of claim 15, wherein a semantic binder including the module comprises:

[[A]] code for a sub-module that adds new doc-query links to the meta-data of the textual index entries to link the documents to the semantic taxonomy categories.